BABELON, JEAN

1921 - 1931

October 3rd, 1921.

M. Ernst Babelon,
Conservateur, Cabinet des Medailles,
Bibliotheque Nationale,
Paris, France.

Dear Monsieur Babelon:-

Could you, or your son, without too much difficulty let me know if the Cabinet has any coins of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, struck about 1825. I am enclosing rubbings of the pieces we have. If you have any different than ours could I have plaster reproductions?

Also has the Cabinet any coins of modern Abyssinia other than those struck at the Paris Mint? And also any coins struck by the Emirs of Harrar ?

I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

Curator.

Enc.

COPY OF LETTER SENT TO

M. JEAN BABELON.

Oct. 15th. 1921

My dear M.Babelon:-

It was the greatest disappointment to me that at a recent meeting of our Governors with Mr.Huntington for the express purpose of discussing the publication of your valuable researches on Jacopo da Trezzo, it was after long discussion finally decided to be unwise at the present moment to undertake such a large publication.

I was the more disappointed as in previous informal conversations with Mr. Huntington he seemed very much interested in your work, and I fully expected that either our Society or the Hispanic Society - or even both together - would be in a position to publish your work. Unfortunately at this time financial conditions are somewhat unsettled and Mr.Huntington does not deem it wise for either of the Societies to publish anything of any size, unless it be of wide public interest, for the time being. In this connection he stated that at the present moment he had over thirty (30) manuscripts in his safe which he was holding back indefinitely until conditions should change for the better. As our publication funds depend entirely upon Mr.Huntington, you will understand our position and that it is unfortunately quite impossible for us to do anything now.

I am deeply disappointed as I had fully expected that our Society would, through the accustomed generosity of Mr.Huntington, be enabled to publish your splendid work. That would not only have been of the greatest importance to science, but also would have been an honor to our Society. Greatly regretting the decision and trusting that times will improve before long, I remain,

Very Sincerely yours,

(signed) Edward T. Newell

Paris le 16 Oct. 1901

Dear Sir,

I am very sorry not to be able to help you in your study either on the Coins of Tegucigalpa or on the coins of Abyssinia & the Emirs of Harrar. The fact is that our series of Honduras & Abyssinia are very poor & that no such coins as those you want are to be found here. I hope that a next time you will be more happy in recurring to the Cabinet des Medailles, & I remain

yours sincerely

Jean Babelon

Jean Babelon - Cabinet des Médailles

Modèle A. — 7928-350-1901. (3070

November 5th, 1921

Jean Babelon, Esq.
Bibliothèque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

In the Annuaire de la Société française de Numismatique, Tome IV, p.197, Francois Lenormant speaks of having made memoranda regarding at least 300 finds which had come to his attention during his travels in the Orient. Have these notes, or any part of them, ever been published to your knowledge? Do you know if M. Lenormant's manuscript is preserved? And, if so, where?

As you will understand, the reason for my asking about this is the publication we are planning relating to coin finds. I should very much appreciate any aid you can give us in the matter.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPH/E

March 10th, 1922

M. Jean Babelon
Bibliothèque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

I beg to acknowledge with cordial thanks the two copies of your brochure "Bulletin Hispanique". One of these I am placing in our library; the other I am adding to my own slowly growing library of numismatic items.

I am hoping that this will be but the first of a number of similar contributions. I think the Hispanic field offers a broader field than most of the others.

With cordial regards,
Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

SPM/E

BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.

Paris, le 18th - VIII 1903.

Dear Mr. Noe!

I am sorry to advise you that you will have to wait a few weeks before to get your cast. Mr. Laborie who is in charge of making them here, is on leave till the beginning of September. I shall send you the casts as soon as I get them ready.

I hope that you will be interested with our new review: Arethuse. It would be very kind of you to send us either full articles, or any notes for our Chronique. You will receive a Mimers-specimen about the middle of October.

Very sincerely yours

Isambert

Maldie A. — 8030-356-1922.

July 31st, 1923

M. Ernest Babelon
Bibliotheque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

As I stated in my conversation with you when I was in Paris, it was a cause of real regret that we could not examine together the casts of the Mende tetradrachms which I had found in Athens. After leaving you I saw another portion of this hoard in England and it contained some further varieties of considerable importance. In consequence, I am writing to ask if you will be so kind as to send me casts of the following pieces for purposes of comparison:

Of those illustrated by you in your article in Revue Numismatique, 1922, Plate VI, 2 and 4.
Also, your Traité, Plate LI, 15.

I presume you will have seen Dr. Regling's article arranging the coinage of Mende. Some of his conclusions do not agree with the data provided by this hoard, as you have probably discovered. As I have record of something over two hundred of the pieces which occurred in it, I hope to be able to clear up a number of interesting points.

Regretting that I could not spend more time with you in Paris, and with cordial regards to your son as well as to yourself, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

SPM/E

August 29th, 1923

M. Jean Babelon
Bibliotheque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

Thank you for your letter of August 18th. The delay about the casts is not of importance.

Yes, I am interested in the "Arethuse". M. Ferrer sent me some folders and I have been sending them to certain of our members who may be interested.

Thank you for your suggestion that I send you articles and items of news.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

January 25th, 1924

M. Jean Babelon
Bibliothèque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

The accompanying Resolution is being sent you and through you to the members of your family, in some small measure to express the feeling with which the news of your honored father's death was received by our Society. It was passed by a rising vote of all the members present at the Annual Meeting held on January 12th, and I was directed to communicate it to you and to M. Dieudonné in his official capacity. For this meeting, we had the portrait of your father, painted by Sorolla, hung in a prominent position, and there were many expressions deploring that so richly fruitful a life had drawn to its close.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

March 29th, 1924

M. Jean Babelon
Bibliotheque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

May I trespass further upon your kindness to ask that you send me the weight of the little gold piece of Lacrnais, of which we received the cast some time ago.

We are considering now our next coin action for a time of your father's tracts and proceeds, and whether it is possible for you to say when it will be issued. When I was in Paris, I thought it was almost complete.

We are looking forward to seeing your catalogue of the de Luynes collection, too.

With cordial regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Secretary

February 5th, 1925

M. Jean Babelon
Conservateur Adjoint Cabinet des Medailles
Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

In connection with the bibliography of the Greek coin hoards which I am preparing, it has occurred to me that pieces of Acanthus illustrated on Plate LIII of Tome I of the Traité, Nos. 4-12, might have come from a single hoard. Would you be so kind as to see whether there is any record of other pieces acquired along with them?

Would you also give me similar information with respect to pieces 7, 14, 15 and 16 on Plate LI (Mende)? I shall much appreciate your help.

I have seen a copy of your de Luynes Catalogue, and wish to offer you my congratulations. It makes a very handsome volume and a very valuable addition to the series of Catalogues of collections which are being published just now.

Very truly yours,

Librarian & Secretary

July 9, 1925

M. Jean Babelon
Conservateur Adjoint Cabinet des Medailles
Bibliotheque Nationale
Paris
France

Dear M. Babelon:

This will introduce to you Professor Alfred R. Bellenger of Yale University who is planning to spend the coming winter studying in Athens. Part of his time there he hopes to devote to numismatic questions. He is particularly interested in the coinage of Ambracia and of the other Corinthian colonies and any aid which you may be able to give him will be greatly appreciated not only by him but by Mr. Newell and myself as well.

With cordial personal regards, believe me

Very sincerely yours

SPM C

Secretary

October 3rd, 1925

M. Jean Babelon
Bibliothèque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

Thank you very much for the casts of the Mayence ex pieces and those of Thrace, which reached me last week. Your letter giving the weights is also at hand. I note you speak of casts of Metapontum which are being sent, and yesterday we received a small packet containing two casts, both of them coins of Smyrna. I suspect that I have received someone else's consignment; and if you will advise me to whom I should remail these, I will gladly see that this is done.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

December 1st, 1925

M. Jean Babelon
Bibliothèque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

In a recent letter from Professor Allen B. West, written from the American School of Classical Studies, Athens, Greece, he asks for casts of the coins illustrated in the Rev. Num., 1920, Plate V, 8. Can you send these to him at the above address?

Professor West also speaks of the Marmaritan gold piece, of which he writes that you had a cast which was at the photographer's. If this was ever returned, could you have either a photograph or a reproduction in any form, sent to him? The same applies to an archaic Attic stater which is illustrated as Plate 321, MMeS, in the forthcoming volume of your father's Traité. We are all looking forward eagerly to the appearance of this volume. Are you able to say when it is likely to be issued?

Then, too, is the second volume of the de Luynes Catalogue to appear?

Did you receive a copy of my recently published Bibliography of Greek Coin Hoards? If not, I will be glad to send it to you if you will let me know.

I hope it will be possible for you to grant the requests of Professor West. He is making a very thorough study of these coins and is deserving of all the help which numismatists can give him. We appreciate very much what you have already done to help, and I trust that these requests will not burden you unduly.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

ARETHUSE

REVUE TRIMESTRIELLE

JEAN BABELON
PIERRE d'ESPEZEL
Directeurs

J. FLORANGE, Editeur

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MONNAIES — MÉDAILLES
PLAQUETTES — SCEAUX
GEMMES GRAVÉES — ART
ARCHÉOLOGIE — CRITIQUE

PARIS (2e), le 5th J C

17, RUE DE LA BANQUE

Dear Mr. Noe,

I pray you to accept my excuses for troubling you on a matter which is not properly numismatic. I have seen lately at a collectioner's a very good miniature painting, representing Columbus landing in America. I suppose that it is a piece torn from a manuscript of the beginning of the XVI th century. As the painting may be of interest for the American Hispanic Society or for any one of the Fellows, I am ready to send the photo of it to the president, and I should be very much obliged if you could send me the address of the Society.

With my apologies and best wishes for the new year believe me very sincerely yours

E. Babelon

February 19th, 1926

M. Jean Babelon
Arethuse
17 Rue de la Banque
Paris (2), France

Dear M. Babelon:

I am sorry to have delayed so long in responding to your letter about the miniature painting representing the landing of Columbus.

The only person at the Hispanic Society, to whom there would be any use in writing, is Mr. Archer M. Huntington, 1083 Fifth Avenue, New York, but I very much doubt that he would be interested. Should you present the matter to him, however, please do not say that I suggested your so doing.

Regretting the delay in sending this response,

Very truly yours,

Secretary

22d November, 1927

M. Jean Babelon,
Arethuse,
17, rue de la Banque,
Paris (2e), France

Dear M. Babelon:

When Professor Weat, one of our members, visited your cabinet shortly after his return, you very kindly allot him in connection with his work on the gold coins of Numidia and Mauretania. He tells me that you mentioned having a photograph or cast of another gold coin of Numidia than the ones in your collection such as the British Museum, and that this was to appear ultimately in the Revue Suisse. Now I had thought it would be possible to have a duplicate of this extra gold piece made for my purpose, of course for use in connection with Professor Weat's monograph. Also, does your father's receipt give any indication of the whereabouts of the Numidian piece from the Pembury sale, No. 1041?

We should greatly appreciate your assistance - as you can realize, it will be a very real help to have this information.

Would you also be so kind as to send at your convenience a cast of the piece illustrated in the Revue Numismatique, 1923, Plate V, No. 3? This seems to be gilded. Are there any indications of its having been plated?

Thanking you for your cooperation, I beg to subscribe myself

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

22d November, 1927

M. Jean Babelon,
Conservateur-adjunct,
Bibliotheque Nationale,
Paris (2), France

Dear M. Babelon:

When Professor West, one of our members, visited your cabinet something over two years ago, you very kindly ai aided him in connection with his work on the gold coins of Maroneia and Thasos. He tells me that you mentioned having a photograph or cast of another gold coin of Maroneia than the ones in your collection and in the British Museum, and that this was to appear ultimately in the Traité. May I ask whether it would be possible to have a photograph of this third gold piece made (at our expense, of course) for use in connection with Professor West's monograph? Also, does your father's record give any indication of the whereabouts of the Maroneian piece from the Bunbury sale, No. 584?

We should greatly appreciate your assistance - as you can realize, it will be a very real help to have this information.

Would you also be so kind as to send at your convenience a cast of the piece illustrated in the Revue Numismatique, 1920, Plate V, No. 3? This seems to be pitted. Are there any indications of its having been plated?

Thanking you for your coöperation, I beg to subscribe myself

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

29th December, 1927

M. Ernest Babelon,
Conservateur, Cabinet des Médailles,
Bibliothèque Nationale,
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 10th and for the casts of the three Maroneia coins which have just arrived.

Your information clears up one doubtful point, and I very much appreciate your coöperation. I presume that you and Professor West carefully examined all of the coins of this city at the Bibliothèque Nationale. If, however, any unusual piece should come to your notice, I would greatly appreciate your letting me have the details.

I am very glad that you have decided to continue the publication of your Father's Traité in brochure form rather than by waiting until a large volume could be issued. We are grateful for each new part that appears.

With cordial wishes for a successful New Year, I beg to subscribe myself

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

Jan. 23,1931

M. Jean Babelon
Conservateur Adjoint Cabinet des Medailles
Biblotheque Nationale
Paris, France

Dear M. Babelon:

Herewith I am enclosing a photograph of the cast supplied me of one of the Metopontum coins in the possession of your Cabinet. Would you be so good as to place it beside the original. From other coins of the same die with which I have compared it, there seems a possibility that the cast has not been perfectly made. If this is true, I should greatly appreciate your having another plaster made and sent to me with the least possible delay.

With thanks for previous courtesies, and with assurances of my personal regard, I beg to subscribe myself,

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

Feb. 27,1931

M. Jean Babelon
Bibliotheque Nationale
Paris, France.

Dear M. Babelon:

Thank you very much indeed for the cast of the Metopontum coin which came to my hands this morning - I greatly appreciate your kindness in sending it. I shall be glad to reciprocate if I can do so at any time.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary.